Eastern Uttar Pradesh for the last one year;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check this smuggling; and

(c) the quantity and value of opium and morphia seized and the number of smugglers apprehended alongwith the places thereof during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) The information available does not indicate any increase in trafficking of opium and morphine in the country and in particular in the Eastern Uttar Pradesh during the last one year. The different drug law enforcement agencies maintain vigilance to prevent such illegal activities.

(c) The quantity of opium and morphine seized during the last three years in the country and number of persons arrested are given below:

Year	*Opium*	*Morphine*	*No. of persons arrested*
1988	3304 Kgs.	23 Kgs.	600
1989	4855 Kgs.	92 Kgs.	831
1990	2114 Kgs.	6 Kgs.	367
1991 (Up to July)	1427 Kgs.	4 Kgs.	515

Since the value of opium and morphine varies based on their consistency/purity, it is not possible to indicate the value of the seized opium and morphine. The opium seizures were made in the States/Union Territories of Delhi, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra and some quantity in Goa, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Assam, Bihar and Tamil Nadu, while morphine was seized in Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Bihar.

[English]

Unprovoked Firing by Pakistani Troops in Poonch Sector

4278. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL:
SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pakistani troop's unprovoked firing on Indian positions" appearing in the Indian Express dated July 28, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) the number of persons killed during the exchange of fire;

(d) whether any protest has been lodged with the Government of Pakistan in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether any compensation has been paid to the civilians killed in these incidents;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Government have seen the media report. There have been incidents of exchange of fire between Indian and Pakistani forces across the Line of Control, resulting in some casualties on both the sides. It would not be

desirable to disclose further details.

(d) and (e) The Directors General of Military Operations of India and Pakistan have been in weekly telephonic contact with each other. The need to prevent escalation in the level of firing and tension along the border has been emphasised by both sides.

(f) to (h) No civilian on our side was killed in the Poonch Sector during July, 1991, in the incidents of exchange of fire.

[Translation]

Persons Arrested in Connection with Drugs Smuggling

4279. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons arrested while smuggling the drugs across the border during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the action taken against those persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) The number of persons arrested while smuggling narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances across the border during the last three years is as given below :

Year	Number of persons arrested
1988	244
1989	100
1990	46

(b) In all these cases action under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 was taken for investigation and prosecution.

[English]

Securities and Exchange Board

4280. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Securities and Exchange Board of India is regularly receiving complaints against several leading companies;

(b) if so, the number of such companies; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take against such companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has been receiving complaints against companies including several leading companies. SEBI is receiving complaints against over 700 companies per month since the past 4 to 5 months.

(c) The Companies Act, 1956, contains provisions for safeguarding the interest of the investors against erring companies. Action is taken against companies in appropriate cases under the provisions of this Act.

Theft of Import/Export Consignments

4281. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether export and import consignments of various chemicals are being stolen at Bombay Port;